



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **KEVIN SHELLEY**

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Secretary of State Kevin Shelley Lauds Passage of Two Key Elections Bills

SAN FRANCISCO --- Two key election-reform measures sponsored by Secretary of State Kevin Shelley passed the Assembly Elections Committee today. The bills provide additional training and information for poll workers to better perform their responsibilities.

“Poll workers play a pivotal role in ensuring the accuracy and integrity of the election process,” said Secretary of State Kevin Shelley. “Every poll worker must be aware of voter’s rights and needs, and be proficient in their jobs.”

SB 610 (Escutia) establishes statewide standards for poll worker training to assure accurate and efficient elections. SB 613 (Perata) is a far-reaching implementation measure of the federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA), which was signed into law in October 2002. Among its requirements, it requires poll workers to notify voters of their explicit right to cast a provisional ballot (if an eligible voter’s name is not listed in a voter index).

California is expected to receive between \$160 -- \$170 million in federal dollars to offset some of the state’s costs for implementing HAVA.

Both SB 610 and SB 613 will be heard next in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

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